

QSA-5

Founded, 1933

President's Message

By the time to read this you should have received a dues notice with a preaddressed return envelope. We need the money to help fund our activities and also to keep the repeaters and associated control equipment in operation. Also, required upgrades to the clubhouse could be an expensive proposition. Preliminary plans have been drawn up by the architect and are on site for your inspection and input.

We have some donated gear that is not needed at the clubhouse or in the comm. truck. If you are looking for a radio, this may be your chance to get one at a very good price. If you are interested, bids must be in by the March board meeting. The gear can be inspected at the clubhouse at the Sunday bible/babble class on 3/10 and bids can be left at that time or given to a board member by 3/12. Come on down for some good eyeball and mediocre coffee.

On another subject, we have Field Day coming up in June. If you would like to help out and get on the air for Field Day you will be most welcome. If you have not upgraded to a General license yet, this is your chance to try your skills and get hooked on HF.

We are still in need of a person to take over as our public service coordinator, if you are interested, or if you know some one that might be, contact any of the board members or officers.
73, John

Website at W6SG.NET

See page four, column one to order yellow RACES jackets. Cutoff date is 13 March.

SURPLUS HAM GEAR NOW AVAILABLE AT CLUBHOUSE. SEALED BIDS ACCEPTED

For those members who didn't make the March meeting, we have some surplus donated equipment at the clubhouse. It's laid out for examination so you can see it and fondle the knobs and switches of what you're bidding on. At this time, 28 February, a sealed bid setup is probable.

Repeater Committee Braves the Elements to Work on Mt. Tam Rptrs.

We are pleased to announce that the 443.250 repeater on Mt. Tam is equipped with autopatch. See a committee member for the access codes. The machines were both checked and tweaked after being on line for a few months. Dead on frequency, etc. A small change to modulation levels was made at the same time. All systems up and running. **There is an additional input on the 147.33 (Big Rock) system. The PL is 141.3, the site is near Berkley. This can be used for backhaul along the bay.**

Ed Karl K0KL

The Callbook library at the clubhouse needs back issues from the 1960s and 70s. If you've squirreled away any of these, they would really help round out the series which covers from about 1956 to the present. We'll even take partial, moldy/smelly copies and don't care what may be written in/on them. You will not even be asked to identify individual stains which may be present in or on these relics from the distant past.

**Mailing Address
P.O. Box 6423
San Rafael, CA 94903**

WANTED/NEEDED, A PUBLIC SERVICE COORDINATOR

We are still looking for someone to take over the volunteer position of Public Service Coordinator for this year as Chuck Deatrick, WA6SQQ, is not going to be available as much as he has in the past to continue the coordination.

It might be worthwhile for someone who is interested to step forward now while Chuck is still available to help you get started.....Contact MARS President, John Iacono to submit your name.

The FCC has redesigned its Amateur Radio Service Web site and changed the URL <<http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/amateur/>>. The new layout makes it easier to find information on topics most requested by amateurs, including licensing, amateur exams, filing an application, changing an address or using the Universal Licensing System (ULS). The refurbished site also provides links to recent Amateur Radio-related news from the FCC.

Page #1 of QSA-5 is now the address page. The bent over ends of the staples must be inside the fold so as not to catch on other mail, postal sorting machinery or draw blood under the fingernails of the unwary.

The FCC says that a lone missing vanity call sign application is holding up the processing of over 2000 applications. Is this carrying political correctness a little too far?

MARS General Meeting, Feb. 1, 2002

Prior to the delayed start of the regular meeting Bart Lee KV6LEE recounted his experiences as a volunteer ham radio operator in New York City after the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. With commentary augmented with slides Bart told a vivid story of the communication problems that arose and the way the hams in and around NYC helped out. He passed out a flyer to the members listing some dos and don'ts in case one is involved in a disaster situation relating to radio communication .

The regular meeting was called to order at 2030 hours by President John Iacono KF6VYH. Other board members present were Lorraine Karl K2VGD, John Boyd KE6ORI, Norm Baetz WA6CLK, Jackson Sauers W6JRI, Herman Weiss WP4DCM, Phil Dunlap K6PHD and Rich Carbine W6UDS. There were 42 members and guests present.

Our treasurer Lorraine Karl said she had not as yet received a statement from the bank but it should be about the same as last month's.

Ed Karl, as Field Day chairman, suggested we use computer generated logs this year and asked for volunteers for Sat. night's dinner. Chet Rice (nice guy that he is) will serve his usual great Sunday breakfast.

Curtis Thames KF6TAO said that Tech classes would be held at Kaiser Hospital on Feb. 2nd and 9th.

Rich Carbine said we should have preliminary plans for the remodeling of our clubhouse from our architect in the near future. Rich also said the club has purchased four Bencher paddles to be used as future club prizes.

Herman Weiss said he would check to see if his yacht club's picnic area is available for our club's Aug. picnic.

John Boyd and Ed Karl talked about recent repeater work.

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Things can and do change between the regular meeting and the board meeting so you may be better informed by reading the minutes of both. If you neglect to read the minutes of the board, they may sneak something by you. Besides, some of the older members need to read some stuff twice in an attempt to counteract short term memory loss or just plain CRS.

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General Meeting, continued.

Ben Sawtelle N6PJZ asked for someone to take over the job of Christmas party chairman for this year.

There was a discussion about recent illegal use of UHF freqs. by fisherman off the California coast.

It was announced that Roger Davidson WB6HZO has a 53 ft. tower that is available. All you have to do is to take it down and move it out.

The meeting was adjourned at 2100 hours. Submitted by Norm Baetz WA6CLK Secretary.

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Board Meeting, continued.

A decision was made to set up a work party for Sunday March 24th to clean up the clubhouse. A dumpster will be ordered.

Curtis Thames AE6BM, formerly KF6TAO, is going to order tapes for General Class license classes and said future tests for Tech class will be held April 13-20, Sept. 14-21 and the first weekend in Dec.

Herman Weiss said the picnic area of the Presidio Yacht Club at Fort Baker, of which he is a member, is available for the club picnic. The board readily approved this location and asked Herman to check if the picnic grounds will be available for Aug. 17.

The board has decided that surplus ham gear that has been donated to the club would be put on display at the clubhouse and bids would be taken. Final purchases would be ok'd at the March 12th board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2050 hrs. Submitted by Norm Baetz WA6CLK Secretary.

MARS Board Meeting Feb. 12, 2002

President John Iacono KF6VYH called the meeting to order at 1930 hrs. Other board members present were John Boyd KE6ORI, Lorraine Karl K2VGD, Norm Baetz WA6CLK, Phil Dunlap K6PHD, Rich Carbine W6UDS, Jackson Sauers W6JRI, Kevin Foley KF6YUF, Herman Weiss WP4DCM, and Doug Slusher KF6AKU.

Lorraine Karl passed out the Treasurer's report and after a brief discussion it was approved. Lorraine also said the county has requested the use of the club's building for a polling place on the following dates: March 5, April 9 and Nov. 5. She also mentioned that MS is looking for radio operators to help out during their walk in Tiburon.

Rich Carbine presented and discussed the preliminary plans drawn up by our architect for the interior of our clubhouse. He said these are not final and welcomed any comments and suggestions for possible revisions. A general discussion followed.

Ed Karl K0KL talked about Field Day and asked that members let him know if they plan to attend so he can make plans for station set-ups. Field Day will be the weekend of June 22 & 23 at the Marin Rod & Gun Club.

John Boyd talked about the repairs being made to the comm. truck and said a decision on a new paint job should be made.

Steve Toquinto KB6HOH has donated some computer equipment for use in the truck. Many thanks Steve.

John Iacono said he would get in touch with the Corte Madera Shopping Mall about the club holding Kids Day there in June. John also recommended that the club set up a PSK 31 station, both at the club and at Field Day.

Rich Carbine recounted his recent visit to the EOC at the Civic Center and said the ham station for RACES has been downsized but, supposedly, the site will be relocated in larger quarters.

Go to column two

YELLOW RACES JACKETS

Orders for the yellow RACES jackets are being taken now during the period **Feb. 15 thru Wednesday March 13.** The cost for an unlined jacket, in the sizes of small thru extra large is \$26. For the lined jacket, in the sizes of small thru extra large, it is \$34. For sizes of 2X and larger, they will be a few dollars more. (undetermined at this time). Keep in mind when ordering these jackets, several of us that purchased them last time found that they ran a little smaller than other windbreakers. I normally wear a medium but am purchasing a large this time as the medium was snug. Other members ran into the same situation with their sizes. I would suggest a size larger than normal, especially if a flannel or sweat shirt might be worn underneath during cool mornings or evenings. The jackets will have "Emergency Communications" in 2+1/4 inch block letters on the back. On the front left breast area will be the Sheriff's mini patch with a RACES rocker above, all included in the above price. (includes tax)

To order, go by OES and leave your name, money and size in an envelope with Bruce Stahley or get it to me prior to the March 13th deadline. If you know of a RACES member that does not receive the ACS email announcements and/or does not check in on the Tuesday night RACES net, please pass this information on to them. Before the order is placed, I will place the names and sizes on the ACS email net so everybody can check to see that their name and correct size is being ordered. To order a single jacket after the fact will not be cost effective, due to the labor involved in cleaning the equipment, and would probably cost you almost double.

DON'T DELAY. IF YOU WANT A RACES JACKET, ORDER IT NOW!

Chuck Deatrack - WA6SQQ

113 Michele Circle

(runs off Sutro, 1 block south of San Marin High School)

Novato, Ca. 94947

(415)897-7267

email: Chaslin@cmc.net

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Here's working with REALLY low frequencies.

M a k i n g W i n d c h i m e s b y E r i c R e i s w i g

Here's everything you need to know about making windchimes. They're really quite easy, and you can make them out of just about any kind of metal (or possibly other) tubing you like. I'm only talking about the chimes themselves here, I won't go into detail about what to hang them from, what to strike them with, what scale to tune to, &c, as those are the things that you have to decide for yourself; the things that make everybody's chimes unique.

Also, we're not just talking windchimes here. Xylophones and tubular bells work the same way, so use your imagination!

There are two basic questions about making wind chimes.

Q. Where do you hang the bars?

A. Simple. A uniform bar (or tube) will have a "node" at about 22.5% in from each end. The nodes are where there is no vibration of the material making up the bar. Since there's no vibration at these node points, it's safe to suspend the bar at 22.5% down from the top end without damping the vibrations. Depending on the material you're working with, and the particular application, you can drill a hole straight through the bar, or tie a cord at the right spot, &c. A nice idea, when tuning the bars, is to suspend a bar between, say, two nails using a wound-up elastic band. The elastic can hold the bar (without slipping, if you wind it tight enough) at the NODE, allowing you to strike it and listen to the pitch, search for the note on a piano, &c. Of course, an electronic chromatic tuner is the best tool for this. You could borrow your kid's keyboard.

Q. How long do you make the bars/tubes?

A. First, it's usually not practical to exactly predict what note a given length of a given material will produce. You have to take into account all sorts of physical properties of the material, which aren't easy to determine. The good news is, once you make one bar, and find out what note it plays, you can accurately predict any other length/pitch for the same material. It's simple:

Go to column three

$$L2 = L1 \times \text{Square Root } (F1/F2)$$

Where: L1 is the length of your "reference" bar; F1 is the note it plays (in Hz, or cycles/second); F2 is the note you want the next bar to play; L2 is the length to which you'll have to cut the next bar.

For example: say you've got an aluminum bar 12" long, and it plays "D" at 587 Hz (You might have to trim a little off this first bar to get it to play a "real" note. Remember that a short bar gives a higher pitch than a longer bar.) You want to make another bar which sounds the "A" at 880 Hz. Provided you use the same kind of bar (that means the same material, same width), you'll get your "A" from a bar 9.8" long.

Q. OK, so how do I find out frequencies for notes? (All right, so there are three questions :-)

A. Here's three octaves' worth, from an even-tempered scale based on A=440. (If you're looking to use a different temperament, you're on your own.) If you need to go to the next octave up, multiply the frequency by 2. Similarly, to go down an octave, divide the frequency by 2.

C : 261.63 C : 523.25 C : 1046.50
 C#: 277.18 C#: 554.36 C#: 1108.73
 D : 293.66 D : 587.33 D : 1174.66
 Eb: 311.13 Eb: 622.25 Eb: 1244.51
 E : 329.63 E : 659.26 E : 1318.51
 F : 349.23 F : 698.46 F : 1396.91
 F#: 369.99 F#: 739.99 F#: 1479.98
 G : 392.00 G : 783.99 G : 1567.98
 G#: 415.30 G#: 830.61 G#: 1661.22
 A : 440.00 A : 880.00 A : 1760.00
 Bb: 466.16 Bb: 932.93 Bb: 1864.66
 B : 493.88 B : 987.77 B : 1975.53

You can take an existing set of chimes, determine the frequencies of the tubes using a keyboard, and the relationship of the tones in the set and then duplicate it or use a different material. You might NOT want to use an old out-of-tune piano. The cheapest metal tubing is probably EMT/thinwall conduit from Home Depot or Yardbirds. How about 1.5" ABS plastic? Rebar? Forty pound, or lighter, rail? You could take a ten foot length of 3/4" EMT and start from there. Hang it up, at the 22.5% point, and find out its frequency/tones, then cut enough off to hit the closest freq in the chart above. Measure it and go from there. Just remember to make the first cut just a little bit long.

General Membership Meeting is held on the first Friday of each month at Alto District Clubhouse on Shell Road in Mill Valley, starting at 7:30 PM. Turn right at the first stop light west off hwy 101 at the Mill Valley/Tiburon exit. Bear to right at next stop sign, then turn left at next street, Shell Road. We are in the two story building on the left under the power lines. The upper floor is a private residence.

Business Meeting meets at the Alto District Clubhouse in Mill Valley on the second Tuesday at 7:30 PM. Members are encouraged to attend.

Sunday morning informal meeting, smilingly called The Bible (or babble) Class, meets every Sunday morning at the Alto District Clubhouse in Mill Valley starting at roughly 0800 hours and runs to around 1100 hours. This weekly event is hosted by **Ben Sawtelle N6PJZ**, our Ham of The Year in 1996, whose absence would be the result of serious disease or dismemberment, only.

President:

John Iacono KF6VYH 897-0413

Vice President:

John Boyd KE6ORI 662-1447

Secretary:

Norm Baetz WA6CLK 898-4887

Treasurer:

Lorraine Karl K2VGD 479-8928

Marin Amateur Radio Society

Education Chair:

Curtis Thames KF6TAO 453-2925

Membership Chair:

Doug Slusher KF6AKU 927-8120

VE Liaison:

Stu Dake AC6GD 382-8317

Building Mgr. & Trustee for W6SG:

Rich Carbine W6UDS 479-3136

Trustee for K6GWE:

Bob Webb WB6QPR

Sunday Emergency Nets:

HF Rich Carbine W6UDS 479-3136

VHF Jesse Crocker KG6FNX

Raine Kinney KG6GII

ARRL WAS Local Rep:

Jackson Sauers W6JRI 388-4094

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Errors, additions or deletions? Let us know, preferably by email or PacBell. If we're in eyeball mode, make sure we write it down. ed. (Poor grammar is n.a.)

Dues structure is: \$20.00 per year for regular or family memberships. No dues are charged for Life or Honorary members.

Marin Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 6423
San Rafael, CA 94903

Stamp

The Mailing
Address
Goes Here